

CLAIMS

1. Footwear, having a sole, wherein at least the rearward portion of the sole is shaped to replicate the tail shape of a surfboard.

2. Footwear as claimed in Claim 1 wherein:

5 the underside of the sole incorporates a pattern or ornamentation to replicate the one to three fin(s) of a surfboard.

3. Footwear as claimed in Claim 2 wherein:

two or more fins may extend below the sole to form a raised heel portion.

10 4. Footwear as claimed in Claim 1 wherein:

the tail shapes of the surfboards replicated include (a) "pintail"; (b) "swallow tail"; and (c) "square tail".

5. Footwear as claimed in Claim 4 wherein:

side portions of the sole incorporate hips or flyers, replicating the hips or flyers in surfboards, to complement the tail shapes.

15 6. Footwear as claimed in Claim 1 wherein:

the sole incorporates a coloured stringer, from nose to tail, replicating the stringer of a surfboard on the upper side of the sole.

7. Footwear as claimed in Claim 1 wherein:

20 the upper side of the sole is provided with a raised heel pad, with added grip, to replicate the deck grip or "gorilla grip" on a surfboard.

8. Footwear as claimed in Claim 7 wherein:

the heel pad has an inclined forwardly-directed face and a

patterned-or-profile upper surface and provides support and/or grip to a wearer's heel.

9. Footwear as claimed in Claim 1 wherein:

the sole incorporates a leg rope hole, or pattern or  
5 ornamentation replicating same.

10. Footwear as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the upper side of  
the sole incorporates branding, labelling and/or other surfboard  
aesthetics.

11. A hand surfer for body surfers comprising the footwear as  
10 claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 10.

12. A hand surfer as claimed in Claim 11, including:

a wrist strap attachable at one end to the sole and at the  
other end to the wearer's wrist.

13. A hand surfer as claimed in Claim 12 wherein:

15 the wrist strap has a length of cord or rope, with a loop at  
one end and a locking pin at the other end, the cord or rope passing  
through the loop for attachment to the wearer's wrist and the locking pin  
being engageable in a leg rope hole in the sole.

14. A hand surfer as claimed in Claim 11 or Claim 12, including:

20 A front strap, extending laterally to the sole, adjacent the  
front end of the sole, engageable by the wearer's hand and/or fingers.